

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 1-9 stand rejected. Figures 10-11 have been objected to. Claims 1-2 have been objected to. Applicant hereby cancels claim 1, amends claims 2-9, adds new claims 10-21, and corrects the drawings. In light of the amendments and corrections and below remarks, reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Figs. 10 and 11 have been objected to. Specifically, the Office Action states that Figs. 10 and 11 should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art". Applicant has corrected Figs. 10 and 11 to include this legend. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-2 are objected to because of minor informalities. This objection is moot with respect to claim 1 as this claim has been cancelled. Applicant has amended claim 2 to correct the minor informalities indicated in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Specifically, the Office Action states that claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 contain elements that lack antecedent basis. It also states that dependent claims 3-5 and 8-9 are also indefinite for this reason as being dependent on rejected base claim 2. The rejection of claim 1 is moot as this claim has been cancelled. Applicant has amended claims 2, 6, and 7 to supply antecedent basis. Claim scope has not been narrowed thereby. Withdrawal of the rejections under the second paragraph of § 112 is therefore respectfully requested.

In paragraph 8 of the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Johannes et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,779,128. The rejection of claim 1 is moot as this claim has been cancelled.

In paragraph 9 of the Office Action, claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hidemitsu, J.P. 11088119A. The rejection of claim 1 is moot as this claim has been cancelled.

With regard to the rejections of claims 2-5 under § 102 as anticipated by Hidemitsu, Applicant respectfully traverses. Hidemitsu fails to show a combination of n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result as recited by claim 2. Hidemitsu shows three control signals -- $S1$, $S2$ and $S3$ -- applied to five switches. (Fig. 1.) $S1$ is applied to switch 6 and 10, $S2$ is applied to switch 7 and 9, and $S3$ is applied to switch 8. Thus, it shows five switches but only three control signals. The control signals are thus not unique. Claim 2 of the present invention as amended teaches a FIR filter combining n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. Specifically, claim 2 teaches a FIR filter including “a first n -bit shift register (n being a natural number) for progressively shifting the data”, and teaches “a control means for controlling the n switching means, the control means outputting n unique control signals respectively to the n switching means”. Accordingly, claim 2 recites a FIR filter combining n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Hidemitsu does not anticipate claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 as anticipated by Hidemitsu is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5 are all dependent on claim 2 and thus contain all the limitations thereof. The arguments above with respect to independent claim 2 are equally applicable to dependent claims 3-5. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Hidemitsu does not anticipate claims 3-5 for the reasons described above with respect to independent claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3-5 as anticipated by Hidemitsu is therefore respectfully requested.

In paragraph 10 of the Office Action, claims 1-2, 5-6 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Ikeda, U.S. Patent No. 5,636,151. The rejection of claim 1 is moot as this claim has been cancelled.

With regard to the rejections of claims 2, 5-6 and 8-9 under § 102 as anticipated by Ikeda, Applicant respectfully traverses. Like Hidemitsu, Ikeda fails to show a combination of n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result as required by independent claim 2.

Ikeda shows n bits of input data (21-1 to 21- N) combined by a control signal to select k bits of data (24-1 to 24- K), where “ K represents a positive integer which is less than the positive integer N .” (Column 2, lines 57-63. Also see Fig. 3, and column 4, lines 30-33.) The preferred embodiment of Ikeda discloses $N=20$ and $K=3$. (Column 4, lines 41-42.) Thus, Ikeda fails to show n bits of input data combined with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. As described above, claim 2 of the present invention as amended recites a FIR filter combining n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Ikeda

does not anticipate claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 as anticipated by Ikeda is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-6 are dependent on claim 2. The explanation above with respect to independent claim 2 is equally applicable to dependent claims 5-6. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Ikeda does not anticipate claims 5-6 for the reasons described above with respect to independent claim 2. Further, claims 8-9 are dependent on claim 3, which is dependent on independent claim 2. The explanation above with respect to independent claim 2 is equally applicable to dependent claims 8-9, as claim 3 depends on claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-2, 5-6 and 8-9 as anticipated by Ikeda is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant has added new claims 10-21. Two new independent claims have been added, claims 10 and 17. Each of these independent claims teaches a FIR filter combining n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. For the reasons given above, new independent claims 10 and 17 are not anticipated by Hidemitsu and Ikeda, which fail to show a FIR filter combining n bits of input data with n unique control signals to select an n -bit result. New claims 11-16 depend on independent base claim 10, and new claims 18-21 depend on independent base claim 17. The explanation above with respect to independent claims 10 and 17 is equally applicable to dependent claims 11-16 and 18-21. For this reason, new claims 10-21 are not anticipated by Hidemitsu or Ikeda.

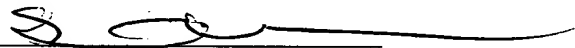
Applicant has corrected the drawings to include the legend "Prior Art".

Applicant has canceled claim 1, mooted objections and rejections based thereon.

Applicant has corrected minor informalities of claim 2 to overcome an objection thereto. Applicant has further shown that claims 2-9 are in compliance with the second paragraph of § 112 by supplying appropriate antecedent basis. Applicant has further shown that claims 2-5 are not anticipated under § 102 by Hidemitsu, and that claims 2, 5-6 and 8-9 are not anticipated under § 102 by Ikeda. Additionally, new claims submitted by Applicant are fully consistent with the teachings of the original and amended claims that Applicant has shown are not anticipated under § 102 by Hidemitsu or Ikeda. Withdrawal of the objections and rejections to all claims pending in the present application is therefore respectfully requested. As each of the pending claims is currently in condition for allowance, such action is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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